

DOE Weekly Field Memo – February 17, 2010

From the Department of Education:

- Important Information to Assist with 2009-2010 Educator Census Reporting
 - 2010 ACCESS for ELLs® Annual State Assessment
 - Hopes for Higher Education Scholarship Application
 - Learning Works Receives \$50,000 Catalyst for Change Award
 - SAVE THE DATES: A Framework for Applying Structured Teaching across the School Day for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders
-

Important Information to Assist with 2009-2010 Educator Census Reporting

Audience: Principals

The course category is the most important factor we consider when matching HQT status to endorsements and assignments. It is also the area where we encounter the most errors in Educator Census reporting, errors that result in false “not-HQT” designations and percentages. This memo is meant to assist you as you update your Educator Census reports in preparation for submission of the 2009-2010 Educator Census data. It supplements the information provided in the Principals Directions document that you should have received from the supervisory union. View the complete memo

http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/licensing/hqt.html#course_category.

Contact: Anne Bordonaro, Coordinator of Professional Standards, at (802) 828-0411 or anne.bordonaro@state.vt.us

2010 ACCESS for ELLs® Annual State Assessment

Audience: Superintendents, Principals, ELL, Title III, Title I Teachers & Coordinators

Federal law requires all schools to annually assess the English language proficiency of all English Language Learners (ELLs) in K-12. This year the test window for administering Vermont’s secure annual assessment, the ACCESS for ELLs®, is March 1, 2010 - April 16, 2010. Every district/supervisory union is responsible for ensuring that this state assessment is administered by licensed ELL teachers who have been certified as test administrators in 2009-2010. Detailed information about the assessment, test administrator training requirements, and special instructions for handling Pre-ID labels and materials, as well as ordering additional tests, is posted at:

http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_esl.html#special.

Contact: James McCobb, ELL Coordinator, at (802) 828-0185 or james.mccobb@state.vt.us or Lucille Chicoine, Administrative Assistant for Standards & Assessment, at (802) 828-5922 or lucille.chicoine@state.vt.us

Hopes for Higher Education Scholarship Application

Audience: High School Principals and Guidance Counselors, Students

The Hopes for Higher Education Scholarship is awarded to youth in foster care for the purposes of obtaining professional certification or to attend a post-secondary institution (undergraduate only).

Scholarships range from \$500 to \$1,000 and the number awarded each year varies depending on funding. Scholarship funds may be used for tuition, fees and school room and board. For more information visit http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_interagency.html#hopes.

Contact: Mike Mulcahy, Student Support Coordinator, at (802) 828-5108 or mike.mulcahy@state.vt.us

Learning Works Receives \$50,000 Catalyst for Change Award

Audience: All

Northeast Kingdom Learning Services and *Learning Works*, Vermont’s consortium of Adult Education and Literacy providers, have been selected as a recipient of the Nellie Mae Education Foundation’s Catalyst for Change awards, which recognize existing examples of personalized, student-centered learning experiences across New England. Twelve schools and education organizations have received a one-time grant of \$50,000.

DOE Contact: Tom Alderman, Assistant Division Director, at (802) 828-3134 or tom.alderman@state.vt.us

SAVE THE DATES: A Framework for Applying Structured Teaching across the School Day for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders

Audience: Principals, Special Education Directors, Special Education Teachers, Occupational Therapists, Physical Therapists, Speech and Language Pathologists, and General Education Teachers

July 8-10, 2010; Manchester: This is an intensive, intermediate-level training for teams using principles of structured teaching as part of their programming for students with autism spectrum disorders. Teams of 2-4 members focusing on one target student must include a special educator or administrator familiar with the student. Schools may send more than one team and priority will be given to teams with parents and related service providers as participants. For more information visit

<http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/calendar.html#asd>.

Contact: Claire Bruno, autism consultant, at (802) 828-5116 or claire.bruno@state.vt.us

Weekly Field Memo is Online!

The DOE Weekly Field Memo is archived on the Department of Education Web site at

http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/field_memo.html. Field Memos and the corresponding attachments are available for download. For Field Memo information three months or older, or for other questions, please contact Jill Remick, communications director, at (802) 828-3154 or jill.remick@state.vt.us.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

For the Department of Education Web site see: <http://education.vermont.gov/>. For upcoming events or professional development opportunities, see the DOE Calendar of Events located at: <http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/calendar.html>.

Main Department Line: (802) 828-3135

NOTE: For comments or questions specific to the messages above, please contact the person listed. DO NOT reply to this message.

This Field Memo is posted weekly by the Department of Education to better organize our e-communications to the field. There may be times when separate messages from the department will still be sent.